

## Report on Tetraethyl Lead (TEL) in Petrol and Lead in Exhausts From Automobiles

### Foreword

Pollution caused by automobiles in metropolitan cities is being increasingly recognised as a major source of air pollution especially in urban conglomeration. Carbon monoxide, hydrocarbon and oxides of nitrogen apart, lead emitted by petrol driven vehicles are threatening not only human health but also our flora and fauna. Reduction in lead content of petrol is also a requirement if catalytic converters are to be fitted in automobiles to meet future strict standards for carbon monoxide, hydrocarbon and oxides of nitrogen. It is in this context the present report is prepared to assess the status of tetra-ethyllead in petrol in our country. The health effects of lead are also discussed in the report. It also makes out a strong case for reduction of TEL to 0.15 gm/ litre. The refineries in the country have been asked to achieve this limit and it is planned to be achieved by 1993



The services of Dr. I.B. Gulati, Former Director, Indian Institute of Petroleum in preparing the basic report for the Board is thankfully acknowledged. Cooperation extended by the eleven refineries in the country in providing relevant data does deserve our appreciation. Shri H.K. Karforma, Environmental Engineer of the Board coordinated the work and prepared the present report based on the basic document prepared by Dr. Gulati and under the guidance Dr. K.R. Ranaganathan, Member Secretary of the Board. Their efforts are commendable. It is hoped that the report will be of value and use of all concerned in reducing lead in petrol in the interest of protecting our environment.

**Dilip Biswas**  
Chairman, CPCB